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Auk July

The Louisiana Water-Thrush (Seiurus motacilla) near Boston.—On the morning of April 13, 1902, I found a Louisiana Water-Thrush feeding about the edge of a pool of water near my house in Wellesley, Mass. He remained there for at least ten days, being last seen on the 22d. At first he sang with great constancy, though hardly with full voice, but after a few days he fell silent, as if (so I thought) he had discovered that he was out of his latitude, and was becoming discouraged. As I determined his identity with the aid of nothing but a field-glass I am pleased to be permitted to add, by way of confirmation, that he was seen on three occasions by Mr. C. J. Maynard. To the best of my knowledge the species has never before been recorded from eastern Massachusetts.—Bradford Torrey, Wellesley Hills, Mass.

Seiurus motacilla in Eastern Massachusetts.—On May 21, 1902, Messrs. Francis G. and Maurice C. Blake of Brookline observed a single bird on the north bank of the Charles River, above Waltham. The bird was watched from within a few feet and there is no doubt of its correct identification.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., Longwood, Brookline, Mass.

The Carolina Wren in Eastern Massachusetts.—On May 4, 1902, I found a Great Carolina Wren (Thryothorus ludovicianus) in an orchard in Belmont, Mass. The bird was singing freely. The people in the house near by said that they had heard him about the place for three or four days. Since May 4 I have neither seen nor heard the bird. According to Messrs. Howe and Allen, 'Birds of Massachusetts,' p. 92, this is the seventh record of this bird for the State, and the only record for the spring.—RALPH HOFFMANN, Belmont, Mass.

A Mockingbird near Boston. — I observed a Mockingbird (Minus polyglottos) at Roslindale, a suburb of Boston, March 23 of this year. I had learned of the bird's presence through Mrs. S. Stevens of Roslindale, who saw him first Feb. 27 and afterward several times during March. She last observed the bird March 27. When I saw him he was in full song and mocked with varying degrees of accuracy, the songs of the Bluebird, Robin, White-eyed Vireo and Bobolink, the long call of the Downy Woodpecker, and the wick-up call or song of the Flicker. I detected no hint of any domestic sound in his mimicking, and this, together with the fact that his tail-feathers were in perfect condition, suggest that he was a wild bird and not an escaped captive. This Mockingbird was very likely the same as the one observed on several different dates and in localities at some little distance from this by Dr. A. L. Reagh. — Francis H. Allen, West Roxbury, Mass.

The Catbird again in Rhode Island in Winter. — Noticing the recording of Galeoscoptes carolinensis in Massachusetts and New Hampshire in winter (Auk, XIX, April, 1902, p. 208), it may be of interest to report that I

have seen an individual of this bird in Pawtucket, R. I., several times during the past winter. The first date was Dec. 28, 1901; the second, Jan. 16, 1902; and the subsequent dates were Feb. 3 and 12, and March 4, 1902. There is no doubt it was the same bird each time, as each observation was made in the same locality,—a swampy sheltered stretch along an old canal. The last time I recorded this bird he appeared to be having trouble with a flock of Jays.—C. C. Purdum, M. D., Pawtucket, R. I.

Note on Birds from the South Pacific. — Mr. Joseph R. Slevin, cadet on the S. S. Ventura, has kindly presented to the California Academy of Sciences the birds that came aboard during the last voyage, namely: one male Oceanodroma leucorhoa, January 27, 1902, Lat. 3° 30′ S., Long. 167° 10′ W.; three female Sterna fuliginosa, one male Puffinus chlororhynchus, one male Puffinus nativitatis, January 28, 1902, Lat. 9° 21′ S., Long. 169° W. All these birds struck the ship in the night when it was raining, probably lured to it by the lights. The Oceanodroma leucorhoa does not differ from specimens from California, Oregon, and the Grand Banks. This species perhaps affords another instance of interhemisphere migration. — Leverett M. Loomis, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, Calif.

Unusual Winter Records. — Owing to the unusually mild weather and frequent thaws of the past winter, a great many birds have wintered here (Cambridge, Mass.) which usually pass farther south. I have observed the following:—

American Robin. Large flocks, seen about Arlington Heights until February I, after which date only a few were seen until the spring migration. Their chief food was the berries of the buckthorn.

Hermit Thrush. One seen on the 14 and 16 of December in the Harvard Botanical Gardens in this city.

Long-billed Marsh Wren. One seen in the Fresh Pond marshes until February 12.

Swamp Sparrow. Several seen in the Fresh Pond marshes throughout the winter.

White-throated Sparrow. One seen December 7 and 8; and one singing on March 28, near Belmont. They probably wintered.

Savanna Sparrow. One seen at Ipswich on March 31. As Mr. R. H. Howe, Jr., shot one at the same place on January 18, this probably had wintered there.

Meadowlark. Several seen in Fresh Pond marshes until December 17.

Red-winged Blackbird. Several seen throughout the winter in the Fresh Pond marshes.

Cowbird. Two seen in the Fresh Pond marshes on December 26.

American Woodcock. One seen on December 1 and 8 on the edge of a pool near Arlington Heights.